(c) and (d) The position is reviewed constantly by the heads of Central Government hospitals for maintaining public hygiene and senitation in the hospitals. The Officers of Directorate General of Health Services pay surprise visits to the Central Government hospitals to to see their functioning including senitation arrangement.

Compassionate Appointments

2386. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government does not appoint immediately the dependants of the Government servant who die in harness;

b) if so, the reasons therefor;

c) whether the Government propose to relax the rules so that the family is not put to hardship; and

d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (d) In order to make compassionate appointments of the dependants of Government servant, who died in harness, the appointing authority has to examine the financial condition of the family of the deceased. If it is established that but for the provision of employment, the family will not be able to meet the crises, a job is to be offered to the eligible member of the family. No time-limit has been prescribed for making such appointments. The applicant for compassionate appointment should not only be eligible as per the recruitment rules but should also be found to be suitable for the post in all respects. However, educational qualifications can be relaxed temporarily for two years in exceptional circumstances for appointment at the lowest level. In case of widow appointed on compassionate ground to Group D posts, she may be exempted from the requirement of educational qualifications provided duties of the post can be satisfactorily performed. The widow appointed on compassionate ground is allowed to continue in service even after re-marriage. In terms of the scheme, the compassionate appointment can also be made in organisations other than one where the deceased was serving. As such, the scheme is flexible and responsive enough to obviate further relaxation.

Loss Incurred by Atomic Energy

2387. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Atomic Energy has incurred a heavy loss of Rs. 2300 crore;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct an enquiry to fix the responsibility for the advance procurement of critical and long delivery items for the Nuclear Power Programme; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): Advance procurement of critical and long delivery items of equipment and components for six 500 MWe Units and four 220 MWe Units was undertaken as part of the proposal to instal 10,000 MWe of nuclear power generating capacity by 2000 A.D. with due approvals. This was done to enable completion of the projects expeditiously by reducing the gestation period. Advance procurement of materials/equipments resorted to in this regard would not result in financial loss since these equipments and material would cost more now considering escalation, foreign exchange variation, rupee devaluation etc. even after taking into account interest and preservation charges. Financial constraints have prevented the timely utilisation of these. Hence the question of any enquiry into this does not arise.

[Translation]

Vacant Post of Scheduled Tribe

2388. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Scheduled Tribes Category wise lying vacant in the Department/Ministry of Electronics;

(b) whether persons from other categories are working on these posts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to clear the entire backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) At present, there are seven vacancies for Scheduled Tribe candidates in the following categories:

Category	No. of posts
Group 'B'	2
Group 'C'	5

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Action has already been initiated for filling up all these seven vacancies.

[English]

Help From French Scientists

2389. SHRI PRADEEP BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the French Scientists have expressed desire to help the Indian Scientists in various themes of research on AIDS;

(b) if so, whether a delegation of French Scientists have visited India recently and held discussion with Indian authorities;

(c) if so, the details of the discussions held; and

(d) the extent to which the Government propose to take French assistance in controlling AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The French delegation visited India and discussed this topic on 11.7.97.

(c) During discussion with French delegation, areas of research on prevention of perinatal transmission, Molecular diversity, genetic factors, biological and immunological monitoring and mucosal immunity in HIV infection have been identified.

(d) The modelities of co-operation will be discussed in a workshop of scientists of both the countries proposed to be held in January, 1998.

[Translation]

Urban Unemployed Youth

2390. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of increase in the number of unemployed urban youth in Maharashtra during the last three years and the figures thereof;

(b) the steps being taken to check unemployment in Maharashtra; and

(c) the provision made for the year 19997-98 in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT. (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The number of job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed on the live register of employment exchanges in Maharastra at the end of 1991 and 1996 was 31.6 lakhs and 38.2 lakhs respectively. The increase is to the tune of 6.6 lakhs.

(b) This Ministry is implementing two Centrally sponsored urban employment Programmes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) & Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP). NRY was launched in Oct., 1989 in the country including Maharashtra with the objective of providing self employment and wage employment. PMI UPEP having self employment as one of the components was launched in Novermber, '95 in the country including Maharashtra.

(c) NRY: Provision for the year 1997-98 is Rs. 869.23 lakhs for Maharashtra.

PMI UPEP: Provision for the year 1997-98 is Rs. 721.08 lakhs for Maharashtra.

[English]

CGHS Dispensaries/Hospitals for Retired Government Servants

2391. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have opened hospitals or dispensaries under CGHS scheme for the benefit of retired Government servants;

(b) if so, the places where such facilities have been provided;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any criteria